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INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

To: Dr. W. F. Gannon

Date: November 28, 1977

From: H. B. Merritt

Subject: Plans & Objectives - 1978

I. Self-Extinguishing Cigarette

As part of the program to develop an understanding of the interrelationship between cigarette design parameters and cigarette ignition potential, several bench level test devices will be evaluated. This program hopefully will be carried out by a summer employee. The summer student's program will be centered around the evaluation of several testing concepts.

II. Study of Tower-Cyclone Heat Transfer

I plan to continue literature search and experimentation in this area. I presently believe that overall expanded tobacco properties can be improved via optimization of equipment design. To support this program, a better understanding of the pneumatic conveying will be required.

III. Primary Processing

With the opportunities from the planned construction of a new factory, I plan to study primary processing. Such unit operation as burley strip drying, filler drying (ADT), cutting, conditioning, and casing applications will be studied. Should plans for the installation of an improved and enlarged semi-works continue, I hope to be involved in its design and program.

IV. RL

The work in this area will be of a continuing type. The installation and start-up of the closed white water system should occur during 1978.

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Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/xylk0000

The work to improve the filling power of RL will be further complicated by the closing of the system which will increase soluble levels. I plan to work toward development of alternate schemes for application of 150B type casing. I view this work as the development of casing and flavoring concepts to compensate for the high stem content blends required by total utilization.

In the area of improved plant-pilot plant operations, my plans are very dependent on commitments for improving the pilot plant. Many programs have been suggested.

V. Development of Testing Procedures

I plan to follow closely work aimed at improving our understanding of and testing procedures for:

(A) Coal Strength
(B) Shred Length
(C) Cylinder Volume - Compactometer

VI. Denitration

The work on the biological denitration should during 1978 advance to the pilot plant stage. I hope to be involved in this program.

Henry

HBM: gmm

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NOV 29 1977
W. F. GANNON